

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 09354 160220 Z

12

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W

----- 105409

R 160148 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4035

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 9354

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, BM

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE KIDNAPPING OF SOVIET ENGINEERS

REF: BANGKOK 8705

1. WE HAVE RECEIVED INDIRECTLY FROM A BURMESE DISSIDENT A STORY CONCERNING A PLAN TO KIDNAP SOVIET ENGINEERS IN BURMA. ACCORDING TO THE SOURCE, WHO SAID HE HAD HAD THE INFORMATION FOR OVER FOUR MONTHS, THE KIDNAPPING OF THE TWO RUSSIAN DOCTORS IN BURMA BY CHANG CHI FU' S GROUP (REFTEL) HAS UPSET A SIMILAR PLAN OF THE KARENNI NATIONAL PROGRESSIVE PARTY UNDER MOREH AND THE KAREN NATIONAL UNION FORCE UNDER MAHN BA ZAN. ACCORDING TO SOURCE THESE GROUPS HAD MADE PLANS TO KIDNAP SIX SOVIET MINING ENGINEERS AT THE MAWCHI MINE WEST OF THAILAND' S MAE HONG SON PROVINCE (VICINITY QB5975). THEY HAD PUT TRUSTED MEN AT THE MINE AND PREPARED A HIDEOUT TO HOLD THE RUSSIANS. THEY PLANNED TO GO FORWARD IN MAY BUT THE KIDNAPPING OF THE RUSSIAN DOCTORS UPSET THE SCHEDULE. THEY WERE PLANNING TO DEMAND THE RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS AND MONEY. SOURCE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER THE PLAN HAD BEEN COMPLETELY ABORTED OR JUST DELAYED.

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2. SOURCE APPEARS TO KEEP HIMSELF INFORMED ON DISSIDENT ACTIVITIES. HOWEVER, WE CANNOT EVALUATE THIS STORY.

3. SUBJECT TO DEPARTMENT' S VIEWS, WE WOULD SEE NO OBJECTION IF RANGOON WISHED TO PASS THIS INFORMATION TO INTERESTED PARTIES.
MASTERS

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BANGKO09354
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730623/aaaajfeq.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 73 BANGKOK 8705
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26-Sep-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <30-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980212
Subject: POSSIBLE KIDNAPPING OF SOVIET ENGINEERS
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, BM
To: CHIANG MAI
MOSCOW
RANGOON
SECSTATE WASHDC
SS
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

